

## Message Text

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67

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 EA-10 FRB-01 INR-07 NEA-09 NSAE-00 RSC-01

OPIC-06 SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01

OES-05 DOTE-00 FMC-02 DLOS-05 COA-01 CG-00 XMB-04

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R 311749Z JAN 75

FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASH DC 5242

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS OECD PARIS 02771

BRUSSELS FOR MARITIME ATTACHE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EWWT, OECD

SUBJECT: US POSITION RE UNDERSTANDING ON EXPORT CREDIT  
FOR SHIPS

REF: STATE 19017; STATE 19288

1. SUMMARY. SWISS AMBASSADOR GRUBEL, CHAIRMAN OF WP6 OF COUNCIL ON SHIPBUILDING, RECENTLY RAISED ISSUE OF US NON-ADHESION TO UNDERSTANDING ON EXPORT CREDIT FOR SHIPS. AMBASSADOR TURNER EXPLAINED US POLICY ALONG LINES CONTAINED IN REFTELS. GRUBEL THEN ASKED IF US WILLING TO PROVIDE EXPERT TO MEET INFORMALLY WITH WP MEMBERS TO MAKE SIMILAR EXPLANATION. GRUBEL ASKED FOR US RESPONSE BEFORE FEBRUARY 11 COUNCIL MEETING.  
END SUMMARY.

2. AMBASSADOR TURNER LUNCED JANUARY 28 WITH SWISS  
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AMBASSADOR GRUBEL, RECENTLY APPOINTED CHAIRMAN OF

WORKING PARTY 6 OF THE COUNCIL ON SHIPBUILDING. GRUBEL RAISED QUESTION OF US NON-ADHESION TO OECD UNDERSTANDING ON EXPORT CREDIT FOR SHIPS. (DURING CONVERSATION GRUBEL MADE VAGUE REFERENCES RE US COMMITMENT TO 1974 TRADE PLEDGE, AND APPEARED TO IMPLY US SUBSIDIES TO SHIPBUILDING INDUSTRY MAY BE IN VIOLATION OF PLEDGE.) AMBASSADOR TURNER NOTED US IS NOT SIGNIFICANT EXPORTER OF CONVENTIONAL SHIPPING; EX-IM BANK READINESS TO PROVIDE TERMS/CONDITIONS FOR LIQUID NATURAL GAS CARRIERS IN RELATION TO SPECIFIC LNG PROJECT AS A WHOLE; 1970 US MERCHANT MARINE ACT WHICH MANDATES MODERNIZATION OF US MERCHANT FLEET FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AND ECONOMIC REASONS.

3. SINCE US DOES NOT ADHERE TO EXPORT CREDIT UNDERSTANDING, GRUBEL BELIEVES MAJOR CONTRIBUTION TO A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF OUR POSITION WOULD BE MADE BY INFORMAL MEETING WHERE US POLICY AND REASONS FOR IT COULD BE CLEARLY ARTICULATED. GRUBEL SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED THAT A US EXPERT MEET INFORMALLY WITH MEMBERS OF WP 6 PRIOR TO WP 6 MEETING SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 10-12, 1975. EXPERT WOULD BE EXPECTED TO EXPLAIN US POSITION. GRUBEL STATED OUR WILLINGNESS TO DISCUSS THE ISSUE INFORMALLY "WOULD BE MOST APPRECIATED," AND ASKED FOR A RESPONSE BEFORE THE FEBRUARY 11 COUNCIL MEETING. GRUBEL IS HOPEFUL THAT HE CAN ANNOUNCE TO THE COUNCIL THAT US REACTED FAVORABLY TO WP 6 PROPOSAL TO DISCUSS MATTER FURTHER.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE RE US WILLINGNESS TO ENTER INFORMAL DIALOGUE TO EXPLAIN US POSITION ON EXPORT CREDIT FOR SHIPS. GUIDANCE WOULD BE APPRECIATED WELL IN ADVANCE OF FEBRUARY 11.  
TURNER

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** EXPORTS, CREDIT, SHIPS, CONSULTANTS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Reference:** 75 STATE 19017, 75 STATE 19288  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** buchant0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 19 NOV 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <19 NOV 2003 by MaustMC>; APPROVED <31 DEC 2003 by buchant0>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** US POSITION RE UNDERSTANDING ON EXPORT CREDIT FOR SHIPS  
**TAGS:** EWWT, US, OECD  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006